nbroad who, being interested in blood-sucking insects and their connection with tropical diseases, will find in this handy and beautiful book as perfect illustrations as they could wish for of typical examples of all the families of Diptera possessed of such pernicious habits. P. H. G.

PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

November 21st, 1906.—Sir Archibald Geikie, D.C.L., Sc.D., Sec.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The following communication was read :—

'On the Skull and greater portion of the Skeleton of *Goniopholis crassidens* from the Wealden Shales of Atherfield (Isle of Wight).' By Reginald Walter Hooley, F.G.S.

In the late autumn of 1904, at a place locally called 'Tie Pits,' near Atherfield Point, a huge mass of the cliff, comprising many thousand tons of the Wealden Shales, subsided, pushing its foot across the beach until below low-water line. As the sea washed away the base, the mass continued to sink, and fresh horizons were denuded. In 1905 a series of heavy 'ground-seas' cast up blocks of limestone and ironstone, containing crocodile-bones, which were discovered on the sand between high- and low-water marks. The skull came ashore in six pieces. Fragments of bones, and scutes were constantly picked up: and the Author is indebted to Prof. T. McK. Hughes for the block which had been picked up and sent to the Sedgwick Museum at Cambridge. The specimens were derived from a horizon 80 to 90 feet below the top of the Wealden Shales. A history of the British Goniopholidæ from the foundation of the genus by Owen in 1841 is given, and it is noted that the frame in the Mantell Collection, now in the British Museum, not only contains the two type-blocks, but a smaller one with the impression of the orbital region of the skull, a fragment of the frontal bone, and the impression and fragments of a moiety of the right ramus. The skull and bones of the new specimen are next described, and a detailed comparison is instituted between *G. simus* and *G. crassidens*, with the result that the specimen is referred to the latter species, differing in several important particulars from the former. Comparisons are also made with other species of *Goniopholis*, with *Nannosuchus* and *Oweniasuchus*. In conclusion, the Author notes that, while in certain features the species comes nearer to the Teleosaurs than *G. simus*, it is farther removed than the latter from them in the position of the posterior nares.